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OKLAHOMA

Music by Richard Rodgers, Book and Lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein 2nd.
Presented by arrangement with Josef Weinberger Ltd.

DIRECTED BY: Cathal McCabe DESIGNED BY: Patrick Murray
CHOREOGRAPHER: Rita Keally MUSICAL DIRECTOR: Donal O'Callaghan



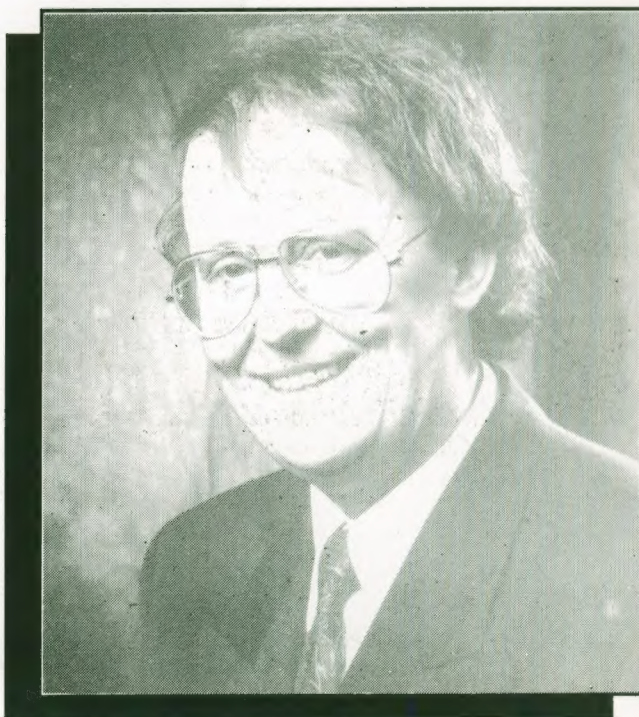


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AUTUMN 1992

Sept 8 - 19

OKLAHOMA

by Rodgers and Hammerstein
Irish Operatic Repertory Company

Sept 28 - 3

DIXIE

by Sean McCarthy
Storytellers Theatre Company

Oct 4 - 11

CORK FILM FESTIVAL

Oct 12 - 17

DANNY LA RUE

Oct 18

TOM PAXTON

in Concert

Oct 19 - 21

PHILIPPE GENTY COMPANY

from Dublin Theatre Festival

Oct 23 - 25

GUINNESS JAZZ FESTIVAL

in association with RTE

Oct 27 - 31

G.U.B.U. 2

by Tony Doherty

Nov 2 - 7

DANCING AT LUGHNASA

by Brian Friel
Abbey Theatre

Nov 8 - 14

CHRISTY MOORE

Nov 16 - 21

GISELLE

Cork Ballet Company, Cork Symphony Orchestra,
Choreography: Brenda Laft, Royal Ballet

Nov 22

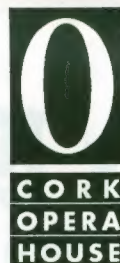
TUTTI FRUITI

Rock and Roll Show

BOX OFFICE 270022
10.15am-7.00pm

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DIRECTORS

C. Hennessy (Acting Chairman);
P. Black; J. Corr; P.W. Fenton;
R.A. Halpin; K. Lynch; M. Moloney;
G.T. Wrixon

ADMINISTRATION

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Financial Controller: Liz Colbert
Accountant: Marie Condon
Secretary: Monica Hegarty
Reception: Katherine Lewis

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Chief Electrician: Paddy O'Leary
Sound Technician: Ian Bullock
Stage Crew: Billy Moore & Frank Griffin

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Usher: Pat Cunningham
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Manager: Catherine Wedgebury;
Debbie McCarthy, Fiona Hannigan,
Catherena Roche

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Noreen Dineen

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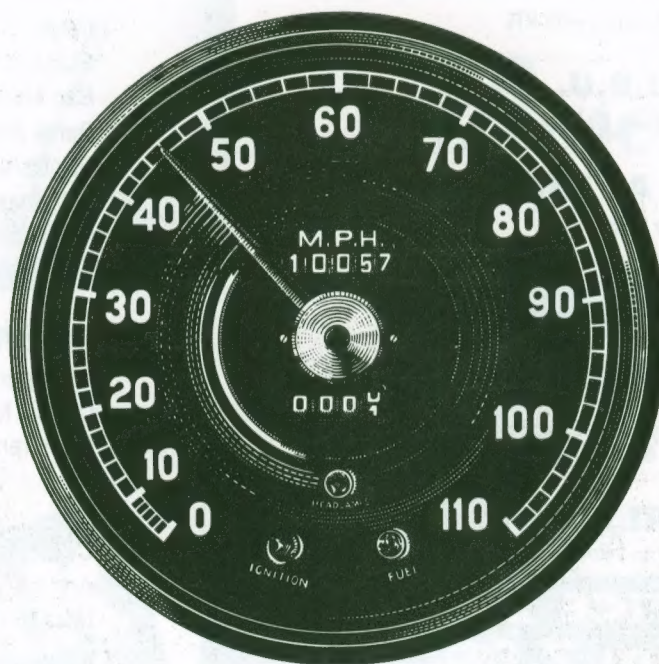
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Last April the future of the Irish Operatic Repertory Company (IORC) hung in the balance. Spartan funding during its first five years had drained the company to the point of exhaustion and discouragement, and its directors were forced to wind down all its many activities.

Enter Cork Corporation Arts Committee under its chairman Micheal Martin. Perceiving the huge input of IORC to the theatrical pulse of the city (29,000 seats sold and a turnover of nearly half a million pounds in 1991 - representing a lot of employment), the Arts Committee near-trebled the IORC grant to £14,300, taking us out of theatrical limbo and putting us back on the road again.

£14,300 is about half of the amount needed annually to keep us actively producing top-quality productions for this city. But it was a very timely shot-in-the-arm, and we are deeply indebted to the city fathers for their gesture of confidence.

And the rest? Well if we had just 100 people (or companies) who would commit £100 per year to the ideal of a professional Cork company it would give us the financial buoyancy to equal the enthusiasm we can engender in other areas.

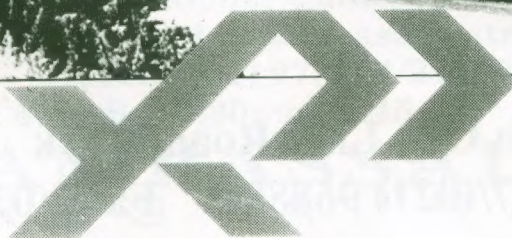
With 136,000 people living in Cork, we need fewer than one person in a thousand to maintain a company which is one in a million.

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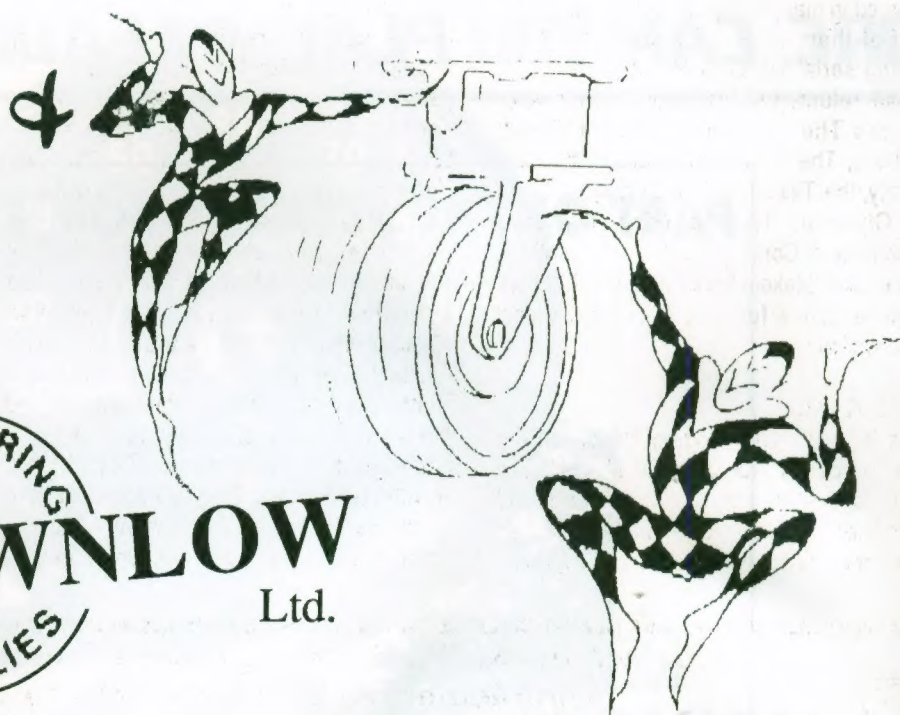
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Michael Grennell

Michael Grennell

began his career as a child actor with Radio Eireann, and when he finished school he joined Godfrey Quigley's World Theatre Productions for a summer season in Wexford. Returning to Dublin, he appeared in Copout, The Chastitute and Lovers with Gemini Productions before spending a year in Belfast, where he worked with both the Lyric and Arts Theatres, playing in A Little Night Music, Mother Courage, Zorba (the musical) and Jesus Christ Superstar. In 1981 he toured Ireland in Twelfth Night with the Irish Theatre Company and later that year joined the Abbey Theatre company where, over three years, he played in many productions, notably Cherry Orchard, Mary Makebelieve, The Merchant Of Venice, Translations and The Bearded Lady.

In 1985 Michael's career came full circle when he joined Radio Eireann Players, this time as an adult. During his four years with them, he appeared in many enjoyable productions - not least of them as Phil Keogh in the long running serial Harbour Hotel. After RTE, Michael returned to the stage and his work includes The Hostage, Carousel, Blood Brothers, The Sound of Music and, most recently, the Tinman in The Wizard Of Oz at the Olympia. This is Michael's third appearance at Cork Opera House - the others were in Mary Makebelieve and Blood Brothers - and he looks forward to a happy and successful run.

Linda Kenny

Linda is a final year singing student at the Cork School of Music under Mrs. Maeve Coughlan. Already an accomplished performer, this 23 year old Feis Maitiu prizewinner, has sung in the U.S., France,



Linda Kenny



Gerry McLoughlin

Italy, the U.K. and on national radio and television. She played leading roles in the 1988 Christmas pantomime Little Red Riding Hood and The Sound of Music in 1986, both at Cork Opera House and has also toured extensively with James N. Healy and Friends, performing the story of Gilbert and Sullivan. She played Lazarillo in Kinsale Opera's production of Maritana last year, and most recently she completed a highly successful run of Rosemarie in Fermoy. Having just completed an M.A. on the drama of John B. Keane, Linda now hopes to concentrate on her musical career, and has spent part of this summer on an intensive study course in England. This is her first involvement with the IORC and she looks forward to working with them in the future.

Mary Mulcahy

Mary will be familiar to many from her appearances on television, where she has been a presenter on RTE's Scratch Saturday and The Fanta Roadshow for the last three years. She has also been seen on Sunday Night at the Olympia, Live At Three and The Late Late Show. She took part in the 1989 Eurovision Song Contest in Switzerland, representing Ireland. From 1988 to 1991 she was the Musical Director of the Fermoy Choral Society, and she has also performed at recitals in Fota House and Acton's in Kinsale, where she was the harpist with Rinceoiri Cois Laoi. Mary toured France with Graffiti, the theatre in education company, and has also acted in plays produced at UCC. Some of the musical roles she has performed include Kathie in The Student Prince, Grace in Annie, and Ida in the IORC's production of Die Fledermaus. She is studying oratorio with



Mary Mulcahy

Robert Beare at the Cork School of Music, and is also about to start work on an MA in English at UCC.

Gerry McLoughlin

This is Gerry's second outing with the IORC, having previously worked with them on The Sound of Music. Gerry has appeared and toured in major productions with the Everyman, Cork Theatre Company and Feedback. Most recently she was seen as Juno in Feedback's production of Juno and the Paycock and also appeared in their Factory Girls, both at the Everyman Palace. Gerry now combines her two greatest passions - theatre and radio, as she currently presents the very popular Off The Record on RTE 89FM.

Frank Mackey

Since he first appeared at Cork Opera House in Sleeping Beauty in 1984, Frank has been seen in many different shows and plays both in Cork and Dublin. He studied at the Gaiety School and with LAMDA. His last IORC production was South Pacific last Summer, and during 1991 he was also seen in two very different roles at Cork Opera House - in Philadelphia, Here I Come! and Back to the Future with Cinderella and he was in the Everyman Palace in Conversations on a Homecoming. Frank's versatility is shown in the variety of productions in which he has been involved, for example, in Borstal Boy and Cinderella at the Gaiety in Dublin, both directed by Joe Dowling, The Silver Tassie at the Abbey, directed by Patrick Mason, and earlier this year his performance in the Olympia's Christmas show The Wizard Of Oz won him much praise from critics and audiences alike.



Frank Mackey

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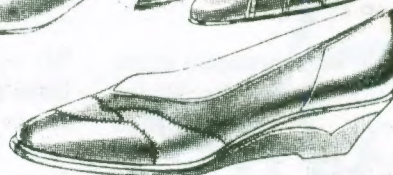
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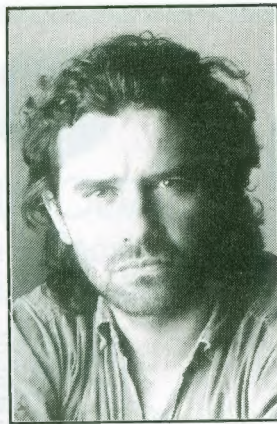
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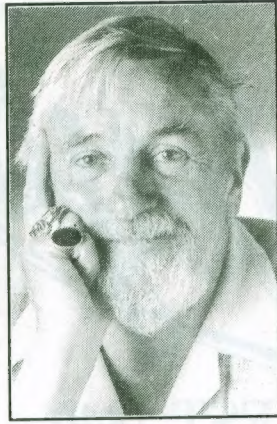
- A Step in the Right Direction -



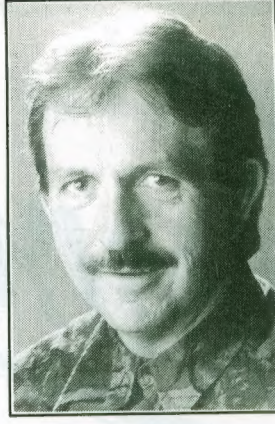
Philip McTeggart Walsh



Martin Blower



Donn McMullin



Paddy Dunlea



Katherine Lewis

Philip McTeggart Walsh

Philip McTeggart Walsh is a full-time drama and dance teacher of Tap, Jazz, Modern and Irish dancing. He holds six national titles for Irish dancing, won an award for his choreography for *Tops of the Towns* in 1984, directed and choreographed the 1992 All-Ireland winning *Macra* light entertainment show and his creation, a show entitled *Our Environment*, which he devised, directed and choreographed won first prize in a competition between the EC states. As well as teaching and directing others, Philip has a very long list of theatrical credits as a performer himself, many of them in Cork Opera House productions, including many pantomimes and other shows, the most recent being *Annie last Christmas*. He has also appeared at the Everyman in plays which include *Gimme Shelter* and *Little Women*.

Martin Blower

Born and reared in Cork, Martin first got involved in acting with Douglas Drama Group in 1983 and thoroughly enjoyed it. Martin has played many parts since, including award-winning performances in *Aftermath*, *The Lover*, *Revenge*, and *Tira*. He recently enjoyed the challenge of playing Bill Sikes in the IORC production of *Oliver*. Martin has worked with various

theatrical companies, including the Everyman Group, Limelight Productions, Haulbowline Theatre Group, Stage Centre Productions and Cork Theatre Company. In 1983 he toured with ADL's production of Denis Potter's *Son of Man*, playing John the Apostle. His ambitions include being able to get up in the morning, winning two Oscars at least, and not having to live in an attic eating baked beans!

Donn McMullin

Donn has been involved in the Cork theatre since the late 1940's. In 1973 he was appointed General Manager of the Irish Ballet Company (later Irish National Ballet) with whom he toured the whole country. In 1976 he became the first General Manager of the Everyman Playhouse where he directed, acted, stage-managed, danced, sang, prompted, and swept the stage! He devised, wrote and directed pageants at Cork's Blackrock Castle, as well as scripting, co-writing and directing numerous other shows. He has been a director of the Irish Theatre company, Chairman of the National Touring Agency, as well as serving on the Cultural Relations Committee appointed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs. Donn was a founder member and Chairman of the Association for Regional Theatre Administrators of Ireland. He is a member of the

Association of Irish Adjudicators and was for some time Cork critic for *The Stage* newspaper.

Paddy Dunlea

Paddy started his career with the Blackpool Church Choir in 1981, although he had an interest in singing from an early age, inspired by his father, William Dunlea, the well-known Irish tenor. He joined the IORC Academy in 1989 through a FAS scheme, and has taken part in many productions since then, including *The Opera Spectacular*, *South Pacific*, *The Student Prince*, *The Sound of Music*, and most recently, *Oliver*. Paddy has lived and worked in Cork all his life, and hopes to pursue a career in singing, cabaret and drama in the future.

Katherine Lewis

Born in Dublin, Katherine began training with Myrtle Lampkin and continued her studies at the Royal Ballet in London. From there she won a scholarship to the Princess Grace School of Ballet in Monaco. On her return to Ireland, she joined the Irish National Ballet, dancing soloist and lead roles for ten years. Katherine has a close association with the IORC and has appeared in six of their productions to date. In November 1991 Katherine staged the ballet *Cinderella* for Cork Ballet Company at Cork Opera House.



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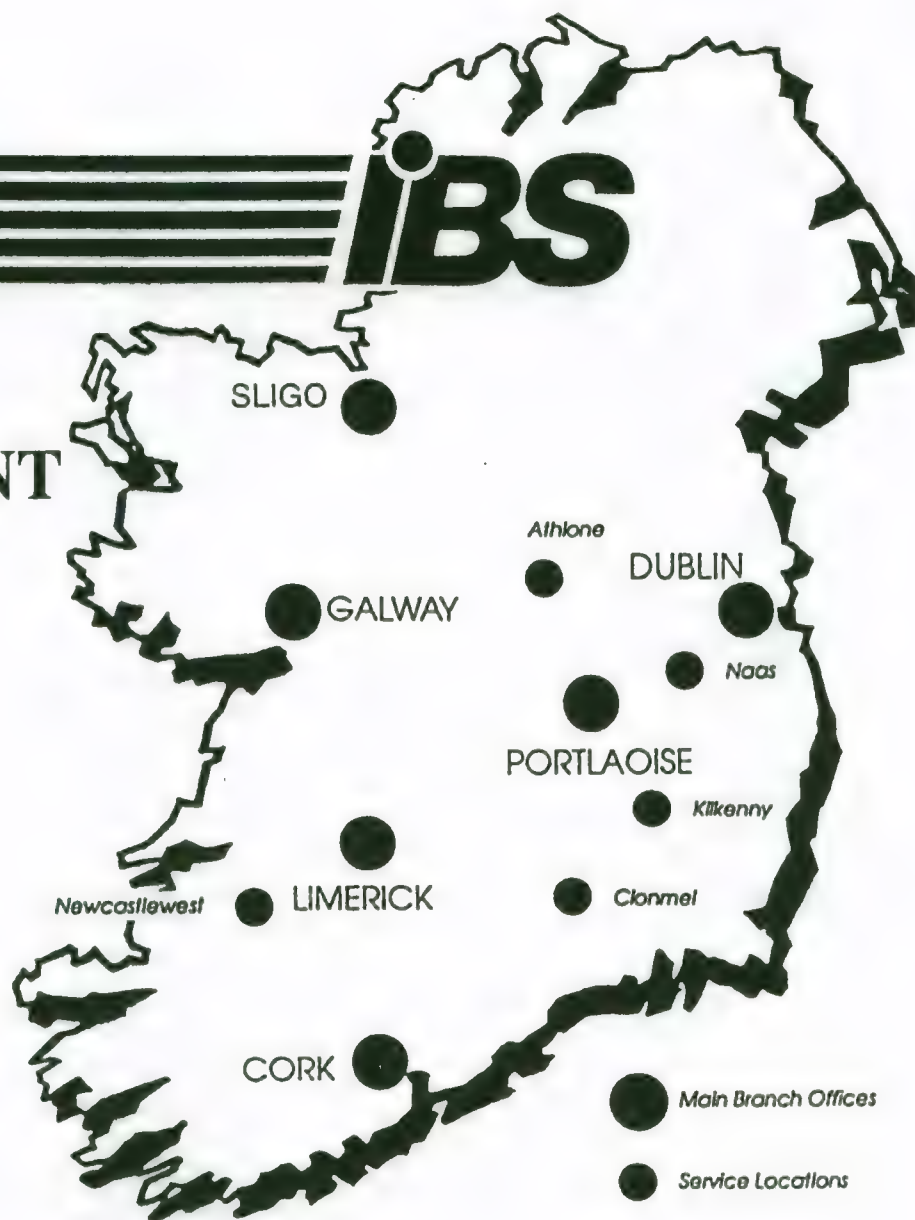
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OKLAHOMA

CAST

Aunt Eller	Gerry McLoughlin
Curly	Michael Grennell
Laurey	Linda Kenny
Ado Annie Carnes	Mary Mulcahy
Ali Hakim	Frank Mackey
Will Parker	Philip McTeggart Walsh (by kind permission of The Montforts)
Jud Fry	Martin Blower
Andrew Carnes	Donn McMullin (Billy Murphy 9/9/92)
Cord Elam	Paddy Dunlea
Gertie	Fiona O'Leary
Ike Skidmore	Issac Chute
Slim	Billy Murphy (Edward Neary 9/9/92)
Fred	David O'Donnell
Farmer	Owen Halley
Mike	Tony O'Brien
Joe	Edward Neary (Owen Halley 9/9/92)
Tom	Dave Linehan
Kate	Josephine Barry
Vivian	Peggy Ryan
Ellen	Audrey Goulding
Virginia	Kay Scoutts

Dance Sequence:

Laurie	Katherine Lewis
Curly	Billy Murphy

Dance Captains:

Audrey Goulding
Billy Murphy

Male Chorus

Richard Beamish	Lorcan O'Byrne
Trevor Dornan	John O'Donovan
Edwin Dunlea	David O'Flaherty
Ted Foley	Donal M. O'Shea
Jonathan Murphy	Sunil Patel
Noel Murphy	Joe Spillane

Synopsis of Scenes

ACT ONE

Scene 1:	The Front of Laurey's Farmhouse
Scene 2:	The Smoke House
Scene 3:	A Grove on Laurey's Farm

Interval

ACT TWO

Scene 1:	The Skidmore Ranch
Scene 2:	The Back of Laurey's Farmhouse

Time:	Just after the turn of the century.
Place:	Indian Territory (Now Oklahoma).

Ladies Of The Chorus

Josephine Barry
Collette Coughlan
Caroline Deasy (Montfort)
Katrina Fallon
Aoife Forest (Montfort)
Jennifer Gaughan
Regina Gilley
Audrey Goulding
Manda Hayes
Joanna Jamel (Montfort)
Bride Kearney
Mary Keane
Linda Kent
Sylvia Linehan (Montfort)
Rachel Manahan
Toireassa McCann
Donna Mulcahy
Ann Murphy
Amanda Neary
Maria Neenan
Carol Noonan
Niamh O'Connor
Fiona O'Leary
Peggy Ryan
Kay Scoutts
Mary Sheehan
Sinead Tracy
Louise Twomey
Karen Walsh
Susan Walsh (Montfort)
Carol White (Montfort)

ORCHESTRA

VIOLINS	Frances Horgan, Carol Daly
VIOLA	Cliona O'Driscoll
CELLO	Phil Buckley
BASS	Carbry O'Sullivan
FLUTE	Ian O'Flynn
OBOE	Maria Young
CLARINETS	Michael Lynch, Sarah Chamberlain
BASSOON	Michael Sexton
HORNS	Sean Clinch, Breifne Horgan
TRUMPETS	John O'Donnell, Bruce Aston
TROMBONE	Michael O'Callaghan
PERCUSSION	James Hynes
KEYBOARDS	Gerard McConnell, Annabel Adams

IRISH OPERATIC REPERTORY COMPANY

Directors	Donal O'Callaghan, John O'Flynn
Treasurer	Edward Malone
Administrator	Jan Farmer

PRODUCTION

Director	Cathal McCabe
Musical Director	Donal O'Callaghan
Assistant Musical Director	Tomas O'Tuama
Designer	Patrick Murray
Choreographer	Rita Keally
Production Management, Stage Management & Set Construction by	Sceneco
Lighting	Shamie Griffin
Wardrobe Mistress	Angela O'Brien
Wardrobe	Frances Barry
Wardrobe Assistants	Breda Clifford, Kay Dunne, Rose Moore, Ina O'Neill
Costumes by Montfort Singers:	Wardrobe Mistress: Sheila Healy
Repetiteurs	Annabel Adams, Paddy Hegarty
P.R.	Tina Neylon
Front of House	Bob Barry, Jan Farmer, Colette Healy, Edward Malone, Mark Pinfield
Props	Eva Walsh, Finbarr Minihane
Photographer	Kevin McLoughlin

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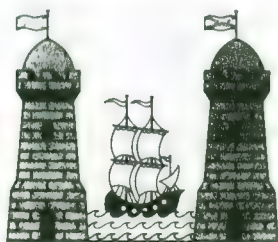
The Show

Oklahoma! opened at the St. James Theatre on Broadway on March 31st 1943. It was the result of the first collaboration between Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II, which was to lead to a series of musicals which enjoyed unprecedented artistic, critical and financial success, including *South Pacific* (1949), *The King and I* (1951) and *The Sound of Music* (1959). The show ran for 2248 performances over the following five years and won the Pulitzer Prize for drama in 1944.

Based on Lynn Riggs' *Green Grow the Lilacs* (1931), a play about the feud between the ranchers who had staked out the territory for cattle-grazing and farmers who wanted the land for their crops, **Oklahoma!** retains the spirit of the original - bright, fresh and "folksy". Its chief quality is its unity. Most musical comedies of that era were composed of a thin plot, irrelevant dances, feeble humour, and some appropriate songs - **Oklahoma!** presents an absorbing story from which all the elements flow - logical lyrics, simple but unforgettable music,

imaginative dances, colours and costumes, all magically blended into one. **Oklahoma!** is one of the masterpieces of the American stage and has been described as "the first American vernacular opera". It integrates song, dance, and drama, the lyrics and plot dictating the musical techniques, the chorus girls and "production numbers" of musical comedy replaced by dances modelled on American square dance.

The feel and colour has survived countless presentations - a film version starring Gordon McRae, Shirley Jones, Gloria Graham, Gene Nelson and Rod Steiger appeared in 1956, and it has continued to be performed throughout the USA, Europe, Australia and elsewhere. This is the first time the show has been seen at Cork Opera House since the Montforts' production here over a decade ago. The Irish Operatic Repertory Company have already very successfully presented other work here by Rodgers and Hammerstein II, *The Sound of Music*, and *South Pacific*.



CORK CIVIC TRUST

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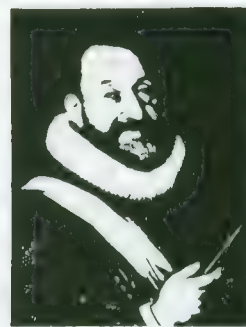
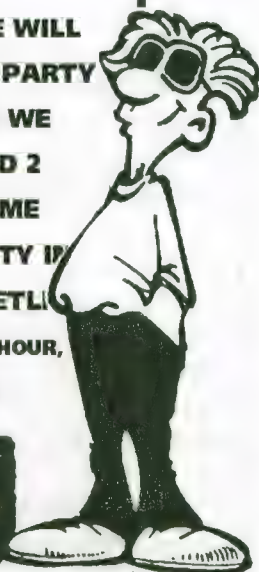
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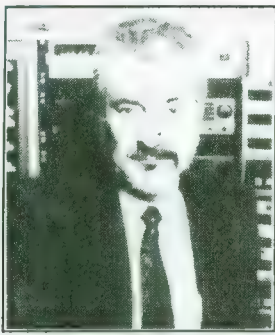
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Cathal McCabe
Director

Cathal McCabe was born in Derry and educated there and at Queen's University, Belfast. He has been involved with the musical theatre for most of his life, first as an actor and later as a director. His work includes the premieres of *Man of La Mancha*, *A Little Night Music*, both at the Lyric, Belfast, and *George M* and *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas* with O'Connells Musical Society. His recent production credits include *Amahl* and the *Night Visitors* at the National Concert Hall, *Hello Dolly*, *Showboat* and *The Student Prince*, at the Grand Opera House, Belfast and *South Pacific* for the IORC last year here at Cork Opera House. Cathal is also Head of Music for RTE.

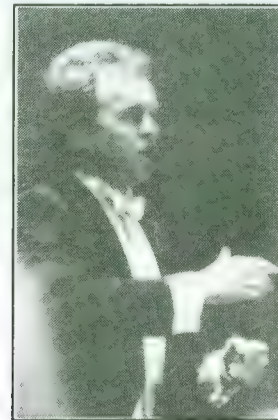


Rita Keally
Choreographer

Oklahoma is Rita's second appearance in Cork, having choreographed the very successful production of *South Pacific* for the IORC here at Cork Opera House last year. Rita began her dancing career at the age of 4 with the Royal Oultons Dance Troupe, making her stage debut at 5 at the Theatre Royal, she subsequently became a Royalette, having trained with Alice Delgarno. She has been involved in films and television, including work with the legendary James Cagney.

Rita has been choreographer for many of the Dublin societies and has achieved a record in being awarded Best Choreographer at the Waterford International Festival of Light Opera on four occasions with Sandymount M.D.S.: *Annie Get Your Gun*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Mack and Mabel*, and with Arthur's Team, *George M*. She has choreographed *Anglo-Irish Bank*, *Irish Distillers* and *Telecom Eireann*, who all reached the TV final of *Tops of the Town*. Her work with the Glasnevin

productions of *The Merry Widow* and *Die Fledermaus* has been seen at the National Concert Hall. She has choreographed *Yeoman of the Guard* and *The Gondoliers* for the Rathmines and Rathgar Musical Society at the Gaiety, where she returns this November with their production of *Anything Goes*.



Donal O'Callaghan
Musical Director

Donal O'Callaghan played percussion and trumpet for many years with the Cork Youth Orchestra and RTE Symphony Orchestra. He received the B. Mus and MA degrees at UCC with first class honours, winning a University prize for distinction, and a scholarship to Copenhagen University. Donal taught in the Music Department of UCC for eight years and directed Madrigal '75 choir, which won high acclaim in Ireland and on the Continent at that time. He studied conducting for four years with Janos Furst and in 1985 went to Berlin, where he studied conducting on a full-time basis. He has been Musical Director of the IORC since its inception and has been awarded the Fleischmann Prize for his contribution to music in Ireland.



Patrick Murray
Designer

Patrick Murray has designed for the IORC since its inception and his credits for them include *The Merry Widow*, *Die Fledermaus*, *Gypsy Baron*, *Desert Song*, *The Sound of Music*, *South Pacific*, *The Student Prince* and *Oliver*. His next production in the Cork Opera House will be the classical ballet *Giselle*, produced by Brenda Last and danced by the Cork Ballet Company, to honour the life of Joan Denise Moriarty.

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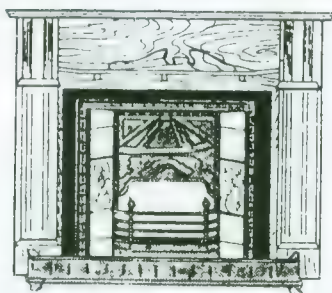
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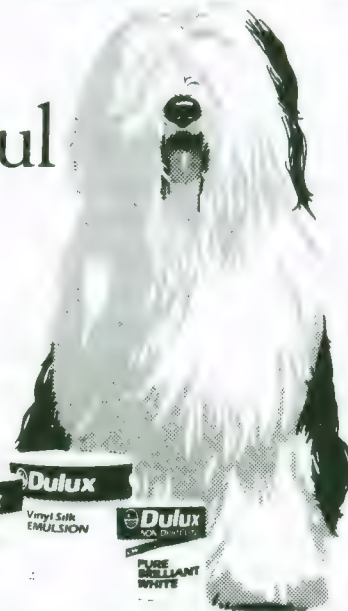
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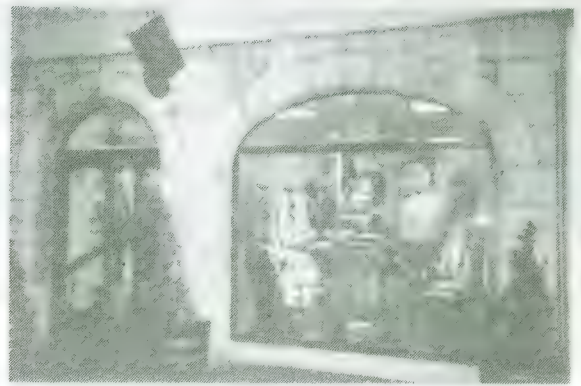
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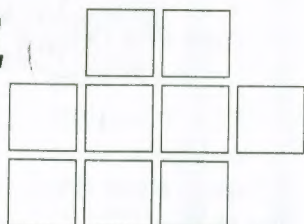


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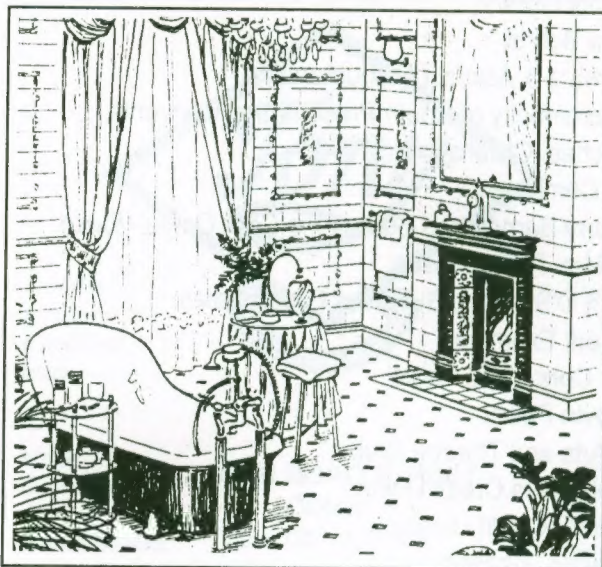
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